

Building a Better Continuum of Care

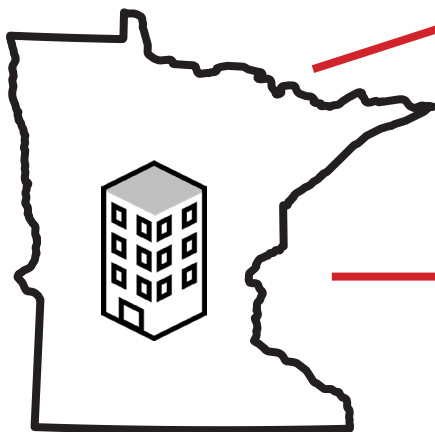
A bonding bill to provide **\$30 million for behavioral health crisis program facilities**. These facilities, and the services they will provide, will be a step forward for Minnesota in building a more comprehensive continuum of care for those suffering from mental health or substance use disorders.

Problems within our current mental health system abound:

- Lack of inpatient psychiatric beds when a patient is in crisis and in need of hospitalization
- Lack of appropriate placement facilities once a patient does not need hospital-level care
- Lack of community infrastructure to provide adequate support to prevent the need for hospitalization

The goal of the bill is to build facilities throughout Minnesota that:

- Reduce the number of individuals with serious mental illness being discharged into homelessness, emergency rooms, and detention centers
- Increase individual and family access to acute mental health services
- Increase individual and family access to the most appropriate level of care



Who is served?

- Adolescents and adults
- Individuals in need of urgent assessment and triage

What services are provided (24/7)?

- Emergency access option for first responders, family, friends
- Emergency holds – security – seclusion and triage
- Mental health professional assessment and referrals
- Crisis stabilization and intervention
- Peer and family supports

Staffing

- Mental health professionals
- Nurses
- Psychiatrists
- Family and peer support specialists

These facilities will be collaborative community initiatives that engage a variety of stakeholders. As the local mental health authority, the county will work with community providers and partners, including hospitals, law enforcement, and mental health centers, to develop robust ongoing services. Financial sustainability (operational costs and leveraging of existing community resources) is critical to the success of this model.